AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1 through 30 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please add Claims 31 through 46 as follows:

1-30. (Canceled)

31. (New) An apparatus provided with a print function for printing an image specified by print data from an external apparatus and a reading function for reading an original image, said apparatus comprising:

print function realizing means having a first mode which utilizes a banding method and realizes the print function with a smaller memory capacity and a second mode which secures an area for storing bit image data of a page and realizes the print function with a relatively large memory capacity;

discrimination means for discriminating whether the print of the image specified by the print data from the external apparatus is to be realized by the first mode or the second mode; and

control means adapted, in a case that said discrimination means judges that the print of the image is to be realized by the first mode, to allow parallel execution of the print function and the reading function, and, in a case that the print of the image is to be realized by the second mode, to inhibit the parallel execution.

32. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the banding method is adapted to process the print data from the external apparatus with respect to each band having plural pixel lines, and to extract the processed print data into dot data.

33. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31, wherein said apparatus is further provided with a copy function, and

wherein said apparatus further comprises discrimination means adapted, in case of a request for copying in the course of a print job which includes printing of plural pages, to judge whether the print job is to be interrupted based on at least either of a requested copy condition and a status of said apparatus.

34. (New) An apparatus provided with a print function for printing an image specified by print data from an external apparatus and a reading function for reading an original image, comprising:

print function realizing means having a first mode of realizing the print function with a smaller memory capacity and a second mode of realizing the print function with a relatively large memory capacity;

discrimination means for discriminating whether the print of the image specified by the print data from the external apparatus is to be realized by the first mode or the second mode based on the print data from the external apparatus; and

control means adapted, in a case that said discrimination means judges that the print of the image is to be realized by the first mode, to allow parallel execution of the

print function and the reading function, and, in a case that the print of the image is to be realized by the second mode, to inhibit the parallel execution,

wherein said discrimination means is adapted, if the print data of a page from said apparatus cannot be stored in a memory, to judge that the print of the image is to be realized by the second mode.

35. (New) A method for controlling an apparatus provided with a print function for printing an image specified by print data from an external apparatus and a reading function for reading an original image and also having a first mode which utilizes a banding method and realizes the print function with a smaller memory capacity and a second mode which secures an area for storing bit image data of a page and realizes the print function with a relatively large memory capacity, said method comprising:

a discrimination step of discriminating whether the print of the image specified by the print data from the external apparatus is to be realized by the first mode or the second mode; and

a control step adapted, if said discrimination step judges that the print of the image is to be realized by the first mode, to allow parallel execution of the print function and the reading function, and, if the print of the image is to be realized by the second mode, to inhibit the parallel execution.

36. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the banding method is adapted to process the print data from the external apparatus with respect to each band having plural pixel lines, and to extract the processed print data into dot data.

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37. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein said apparatus additionally has a copying function, and

wherein said method further comprises a step of, in a case of a request for copying in the course of a print job which indicates printing of plural pages, judging whether the print job is to be interrupted based on at least either of a requested copy condition and a status of the apparatus.

38. (New) A method for controlling an apparatus provided with a print function for printing an image specified by print data from an external apparatus and a reading function for reading an original image and also having a first mode of realizing the print function with a smaller memory capacity and a second mode of realizing the print function with a relatively large memory capacity, said method comprising:

a discrimination step of discriminating whether the print of the image specified by the print data from the external apparatus is to be realized by the first mode or the second mode based on the print data from the external apparatus; and

a control step adapted, if said discrimination step judges that the print of the image is to be realized by the first mode, to allow parallel execution of the print function and the reading function, and, if the print of the image is to be realized by the second mode, to inhibit the parallel execution,

wherein said discrimination step is adapted, if the print data of a page from the external apparatus cannot be stored in a memory, to judge that the print of the image is to be realized by the second mode.

39. (New) An apparatus provided with a copy function for printing an original image read by reader means and a printing function for printing an image specified by print data from an external apparatus and which includes plural sheet discharge means, said apparatus comprising:

discrimination means adapted, in a case of a request for copying in the course of a print job which includes printing of plural pages, to judge whether the print job is to be interrupted based on at least either of a requested copy condition and the number of the sheet discharge means available for the copying operation; and

control means adapted, if said discrimination means judges that the print job is to be interrupted, to interrupt the print job and to execute the requested copying operation.

40. (New) An apparatus according to claim 39, wherein said apparatus also has a function for sorting the printed sheets, and

wherein said discrimination means includes means for discriminating whether the print job is to be interrupted or not based on whether the requested copy condition utilizes the sorting function.

41. (New) An apparatus according to claim 39, further comprising generation means for generating bit image data based on the print data from the external apparatus,

wherein said generation means is adapted, if said control means interrupts the print job and executes the requested copying operation, to execute generation of the bit image data parallel to the copying operation.

42. (New) An apparatus according to claim 39, further comprising a unit that is adapted, if the print job is interrupted and the requested copying operation is executed, to re-start the interrupted print job after the completion of the copying operation.

43. (New) A method for controlling an apparatus provided with a copy function for printing an original image read by reader means and a printing function for printing an image specified by print data from an external apparatus and which includes plural sheet discharge means, said method comprising:

a discrimination step of, in case of a request for copying in the course of a print job which includes printing of plural pages, judging whether the print job is to be interrupted based on at least either of a requested copy condition and the number of the sheet discharge means required by the requested copy condition; and

a control step of, if it is judged in said discrimination step that the print job is to be interrupted, interrupting the print job and executing the requested copying operation.

44. (New) A method according to claim 43, wherein the apparatus further is provided with a function for sorting the printed sheets, and

wherein said discrimination step includes a step of discriminating whether the print job is to be interrupted or not based on whether the requested copy condition utilizes the sorting function.

45. (New) A method according to claim 43, further comprising a generation step of generating bit image data based on the print data from the external apparatus,

wherein said generation step includes, if in said control step the print job is interrupted and the requested copying operation is executed, executing generation of the bit image data parallel to the copying operation.

46. (New) A method according to claim 43, further comprising a step of, if the print job is interrupted and the requested copying operation is executed, re-starting the interrupted print job after the completion of the copying operation.